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ABSTRACT

This book is about the uprooting of racism, explaining how individual beliefs and actions need to be reexamined in order for people to participate effectively in that uprooting. It serves as an invitation to join the tradition of white people who have been committed to ending the effects of racism. The first step is for white people to talk together and to explore the fact that whiteness is a many faceted phenomenon, a fiction that seeks to protect the power that accrues to white people. Following the examination of what whiteness means in our society, there is an exploration of the dynamics of racism and a discussion of what it can mean to be an ally of people of color. The effects of history are reviewed, and some ideas are given for fighting institutional racism. Of particular interest is the discussion of racism in education and the schools and the problems of educational inequity and low academic achievement. How to promote democratic and antiracist multiculturalism is the focus of the final chapter. Exercises and assignments are given to complement the chapters, with questions and actions devoted to major ethnic groups. (Contains 285 references.) (SLD)

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